# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1464
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2005
TELEPHONE FACILITIES TO GRAM PANCHAYATS
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether telephone facilities have been provided to all Gram Panchayats in Gujarat;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of Gram Panchayats provided with telephone facilities during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) the total number of Gram Panchayats to which telephone facilities are proposed to be provided during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the time by when the telephone facilities are likely to be provided to all Gram Panchayats in all the States?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (e) 12,370 Gram Panchayats out of 13,160 have been provided with telephone facility. The remaining 790 Gram Panchayats were to be provided with telephone facility by the Private Basic Service Operators (PBSOs) whose obligation got liquidated with their migration to Unified Access Service License in 2003. Remaining Gram Panchayats of Gujarat will be covered by the BSNL by November, 2007 with the support from USO Fund.